

REMARKS

Claims 1,2,4-8,10,12-14, 16 and 17 are pending in the application.

Claims 7,8,16 and 17 are indicated as allowed.

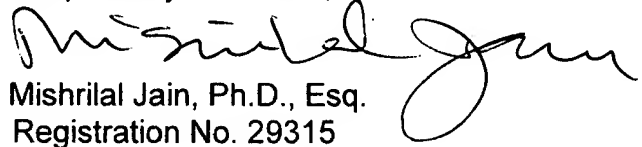
Claim 10 is indicated as allowable if the formal objection is obviated.

As to claims 1,2,4-6,12-14 and 16, which stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. over WO94/19502 in view of Suzuki (U.S. 5,917,113), the Examiner notes that the Declaration filed on May 15, 2007 does not sufficiently compare the range disclosed by Suzuki with the instantly claimed range. In this respect it is pointed out that Suzuki, first, teaches away from using oxygen content higher than 600 ppm. Secondly, the Applicant herewith submits additional evidence covering the range of 0.05% to 0.20% oxygen showing that the results obtained are consistent with previously submitted evidence in the Declaration filed May 15, 2007.

It is respectfully submitted that in light of such additional experimental evidence, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. over WO94/19502 in view of Suzuki (U.S. 5,917,113), is overcome and the claims are now deemed allowable.

Favorable action accordingly is now earnestly solicited. Should there still remain any outstanding issues, a phone call from the Examiner to discuss the same toward furthering the application for allowance, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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